

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Anti-Religious Measures in the KVP	DATE DISTR.	2 December 1955
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This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. The Central Control Committee of the Party (PPK) has decided to take certain measures calculated to lessen religious influence in the KVP. The official reason given for this step is the sudden desire on the part of the PPK to ensure within the ranks of the KVP a "proper" attitude towards politics and citizenship. It is, however, generally believed that the authorities wish to provide sufficient grounds for refusing a recent request on the part of the churches that chaplains be appointed to the forces. The answer the authorities wish to give is that the appointment of chaplains would be superfluous as no member of the KVP belongs to any formal religious body.
2. The PPK has passed the following resolutions:
 - a. A check is to be made in all ministries, administrations and offices of the VP and KVP to ascertain whether members hitherto regarded as politically reliable still belong to a church or religious community.
 - b. All such members of the VP and KVP are to be obliged to sign an official declaration testifying to their secession from any formal church or religious community.

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